

REMARKS

This Amendment responds to an Office Action mailed June 30, 2003. Reconsideration of rejections is requested.

Section A on page 2 of the Office Action objects to numbering of claims, and indicates that misnumbered claims 22-26 have been renumbered 23-27. The claims have been renumbered accordingly in the above Listing of Claims, and the dependency of claims 24-27 has been corrected accordingly.

In addition, minor errors in the claims are corrected: Inadvertent errors that occurred in combining claim 1 with canceled claim 2 are corrected by changing "the summarized data" to "the configuration data" and by deleting "as summarized data". Dependency is corrected in claims 3 and 6 by changing "claim 2" to "claim 1" in each claim.

Section 2 of the Office Action rejects claims 1, 3, 7-11, 13, and 14 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Gase et al. (U.S. Patent 5,580,177, referred to as "Gase"). Section 3 of the Office Action rejects claims 1, 4-6, 7, and 11-12 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by White et al. (U.S. Patent 6,301,012 B1, referred to as "White").

The factual showing necessary to support anticipation rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102 has been concisely stated: "Anticipation is established only when a single prior art reference discloses, expressly or under principles of inherency, each and every element of a claimed invention." *RCA Corp. v. Applied Digital Systems, Inc.*, 221 USPQ 385, 388 (Fed. Cir. 1984).

Neither Gase nor White anticipates a method as in claim 1. The method of claim 1 includes "gathering printer configuration data from a printer at a printer port", "monitoring the incoming printer configuration data for changes", "recognizing the changes in configuration data", "waking an installed server print driver and alerting the server print driver of changes in configuration data to allow the print driver to convert

the configuration data to an internal format”, and “saving the changes in configuration data in a spooler registry.”

Section 2 of the Office Action states that gathering is an inherent part of Gase as implied at col. 5 lines 8-12; that Gase teaches monitoring in Fig. 3a, element 74; that Gase teaches recognizing in Fig. 3a, element 76; that Gase teaches waking and alerting an installed server print driver in Fig. 3a, elements 74-76; and that Gase teaches saving in the Abstract, lines 4-6 or col. 4 lines 12-20. The cited portions of Gase do not disclose, either expressly or by inherency, the gathering of “printer configuration data from a printer at a printer port”, and therefore also do not disclose monitoring such data for changes, recognizing the changes, waking or alerting a server print driver of changes in configuration data to allow it to convert to an internal format, and saving the changes in a spooler registry, all as in claim 1.

Section 3 of the Office Action states that White teaches waking and alerting an installed server print driver in Fig. 3, elements 150, 160, 175, 180, and 185. The cited portion of White’s Fig. 3 does not disclose, expressly or by inherency, waking or alerting a server print driver of changes in configuration data to allow the print driver to convert the configuration data to an internal format. The relevant portion of White’s description of Fig. 3 makes no mention of waking or alerting a print driver of changes in configuration data or of a print driver’s conversion of configuration data to an internal format.

Similarly, neither Gase nor White anticipates a method of updating a print driver in a client device as in claim 7. The method of claim 7 includes “gathering summarized printer data from a printer at a printer port of a print server”, “monitoring the incoming printer configuration data at the print server for changes in the configuration data”, and “updating a print server registry of the print server when a change in summarized configuration data occurs”.

Regarding claim 7, section 2 of the Office Action refers to the rejection of claim 1 over Gase and the printer port of a print server 28’ on Gase’s front page diagram. As noted above in relation to claim 1, Gase does not disclose a print server that monitors

printer configuration data for changes. Accordingly, Gase does not disclose, expressly or by inherency, updating a print server registry when a change in configuration data occurs. In particular, Gase's front page diagram does not disclose these elements of claim 7.

Section 3 of the Office Action treats claim 7 together with claim 1, but overlooks a key limitation of claim 7 that does not appear in claim 1: Claim 7 is limited to a "method of updating a print driver in a client device". In contrast, White is concerned with updating a print driver on a server, but does not disclose, expressly or by inherency, updating a print driver in a client device as in claim 7.

Because of these differences, independent claims 1 and 7 distinguish patentably over Gase and White.

Claims 3-6 and 8-14 depend from independent claims 1 and 7 and thus are believed to also be in condition for allowance, for the reasons set forth above.

In addition, previous office actions have indicated allowability of claims 15-18 and 21-22.

Section 4 on page 6 of the Office Action withdraws claims 23-27 from consideration as directed to a non-elected invention. In response, withdrawal of claims 23-27 is acknowledged and appropriately indicated in the above Listing of Claims.

New method claims have been added as follows:

New claim 28 finds support in original claim 15, in Fig. 2, and in the description at page 3 last paragraph-page 5 first paragraph. Claim 28 distinguishes patentably over the art of record for substantially the same reasons as claim 15.

New claim 29 finds support in original claim 7, in Fig. 2, and in the description at page 4 second paragraph through page 5 first paragraph. Claim 29 distinguishes patentably over the art of record for substantially the same reasons as claim 7.

New claim 30 finds support in original claim 7, in Fig. 2, and in the description at page 4 second paragraph through page 5 first paragraph, at page 6 last paragraph-page 7 first paragraph, at page 7 last paragraph-page 8 second paragraph, at page 9 third paragraph, and elsewhere. Claim 30 distinguishes patentably over the art of

record because it is limited to a method of automatically updating a client device's stored data about a printer's configuration and status; the method includes using a server's updated stored data to provide printer configuration and status data to a client device; the client device operates to update its stored data about the printer's configuration and status using the printer configuration and status data.

New claim 31 finds support in original claim 7, in Fig. 2, and in the description at page 4 second paragraph through page 5 first paragraph, at page 8 second through fourth paragraphs, and elsewhere. Claim 31 distinguishes patentably over the art of record because it is limited to a method of automatically updating a client device when change occurs in a printer's configuration or status; the method includes operating a server to detect a change in the printer's configuration or status and to set control flags indicating the change; the client device operates to provide instructions to the printer in accordance with the control flag settings.

New claim 32 finds support in original claim 7, in Fig. 2, and in the description at page 4 second paragraph, at page 6 last paragraph-page 7 first paragraph, at page 8 second paragraph, and elsewhere. Claim 32 distinguishes patentably over the art of record because it is limited to a method of automatically updating a client device about a printer's configuration and status; the method includes operating a server to update its stored data about the printer's configuration and status; the client device operates to periodically poll the server to obtain information about changes in at least one of the printer's configuration and the printer's status.

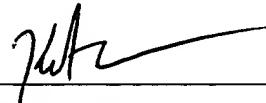
New claim 33 finds support in original claim 7, in Fig. 2, and in the description at page 4, second paragraph through page 5 first paragraph, at page 6 last paragraph-page 7 first paragraph, at page 7 last paragraph-page 8 second paragraph, at page 9 third paragraph, and elsewhere. Claim 33 distinguishes patentably over the art of record because it is limited to a method of automatically updating a client device about a printer; the method includes periodically transmitting a request signal to the printer, causing the printer to provide a respective response signal with information about the printer's configuration or status data; the response signals are used to detect a change

Application No. 09/631,869

in the printer's configuration or status and the client device is updated with the detected change.

Allowance of all pending claims at the Examiner's earliest convenience is hereby respectfully requested. In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, Applicant respectfully requests that Examiner contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Chen', is written over a horizontal line.

Kent M. Chen
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 39,630
(310) 333-3663

November 26, 2003